

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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Dr. Kyle Foust, Chairman
Fiore Leone, Vice Chairman
Carl Anderson, III
Kathleen Fatica
André R. Horton
Carol Loll
Scott R. Rastetter

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Foust called to order a Regular Meeting of the Erie County Council at 7:06 p.m. at the Erie County Council Chambers, 140 West 6th Street, Room 117, Erie, PA. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Loll read the following prayer:

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

"Let us pray. At this meeting we are not a single member, but a part of all. On this day, we share not just one idea but many, people in life from every time and every part of our county. On this day we gather here to govern as one voice. Lord, it is not always easy to live in a community. Let us not walk away from neighbors in need, or be wrapped up in our own concerns. Let us hear the cry of the needy and let us not fail to hear the burdens of others, who long for some support. We ask this in the name of our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.".

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Anderson; Mrs. Fatica (via telephone); Mr. Horton; Mr. Leone; Mrs. Loll; Mr. Rastetter; Chairman Foust.

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, James Sparber, Tracey Fugagli, Thomas Talarico

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Jason Brendel

Mr. Brendel, City of Erie; Mr. Brendel asked that the Erie County Recycling Program cease ads on the smart phones. He then spoke about a resolution that city council passed regarding a ban on conversion therapy. The community has come together for the LGBT youth in Erie. He feels this is a small step in the transformation. He stated that Erie is halfway to 100 in 2018 for the Index score. He gave a handout to all of Council showing an indicator for community benefit agreements. He then spoke about the HRC ordinance that was recently passed but is still lacking in some areas. He states that if everyone works together the population decline could be reduced. He thanked the County

Executive for the new EMTA board of directors. He is a member of the Standing Citizens Advisory Committee, the next meeting is October 25th at 10 a.m. on the 2nd floor of the Intermodal Center and he wanted everyone to work together for the EMTA. He wanted to have Council to host the meetings with EMTA for the citizens and be more proactive to allow everyone to be part of the process with EMTA moving forward.

Randy Barnes

Randy Barnes, Harborcreek, PA; Mr. Barnes again spoke about ECGRA spending, which he referred to as petty theft. He then read off a Visa statement. He wanted to know who was paying for the sugar, the creamer, the coffee. He said it is County tax money. He then commented on the \$1,300 per month rent at Knowledge Park. He then discussed the supposed \$35,000 food line and read off the Visa statement again for one month. He then went on about the tuition reimbursement from 2016 and 2017, which he believes is theft by deception because they changed the line to “personal development”. He stated that Council is part of this. He then spoke about ECGRA giving \$20,000 to Roar on the Shore and how the spending is out of control. He stated that Council has the control and if they are okay with petty theft then they are probably doing the same thing.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

October 2, 2018 - Regular Meeting

Mr. Leone moved to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2018 Regular Meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Horton and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or her Designee

None.

Finance Committee - Mrs. Fatica

Mrs. Loll stated that the Finance meeting was held on October 11, 2018, and they agreed to place Ordinances 129-132, Resolutions 51 and 52 and two Sales of Parcels on the agenda.

Personnel Committee - Mr. Horton

Mr. Horton stated there was no Personnel business to be discussed at the October 11, 2018 Personnel Committee meeting.

Other

Mr. Horton commented that as Election Board Chairman, November 6th is coming and if anyone has a sphere of influence on a group or groups in the community, ask them to get out and vote on November 6th.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Leone moved to make Ordinances 130 through 132 second readings. This was seconded by Mr. Anderson and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Ord. 129, 2018 – GF SA of \$256,748 for Purchase of Infocon Server and Software Updates Through Sole Vendor Contract Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 129, 2018, "Fiftieth 2018 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$256,748 for Purchase of Infocon Server and Software Updates Through Sole Vendor Contract".

Ord. 130, 2018 – GF SA of \$1,793 for 2018 PCOMP Safety Improvement Grant Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 130, 2018, "Fifty-First 2018 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$1,793 for 2018 PCOMP Safety Improvement Grant". This was moved by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Anderson and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Ord. 131, 2018 – GF SA \$3,369 for PCOMP Safety Improvement Grant Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 131, 2018, "Fifty-Second 2018 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,369 for PCOMP Safety Improvement Grant". This was moved by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mrs. Loll and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Ord. 132, 2018 – PH SA of \$12,238 for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 132, 2018, "Eighth 2018 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$12,238 for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant". This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. Anderson and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Res. 51, 2018, Erie County General Authority Not To Exceed \$4,380,000 Tax-Exempt Note (YMCA Of Erie, Pennsylvania Project) Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 51, 2018, "Erie County General Authority Not To Exceed \$4,380,000 Tax-Exempt Note (Young Men's Christian Association Of Erie, Pennsylvania Project)". This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. Anderson and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Res. 52, 2018, In Support of a National Tolling of the Bells to Honor Those Who Served in the Great War Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 52, 2018, "In Support of a National Tolling of the Bells to Honor Those Who Served in the Great War". This was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leone and carried in a 7 - 0 vote. Mr. Anderson commented that Council has done a proclamation that will be read on November 11th as Council is joining with Gov. Wolf, County Executive Dahlkemper, and Mayor Schember and City Council to present proclamations on the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice. He then applauded Mary Jane Koenig who spearheaded this effort.

Dr. Foust echoed the sentiments on Mary Jane Koenig and stated that this is something celebrated in his family as his grandfather fought in World War and hopes that any bell in Erie County would ring at this time.

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 15-020-028.0-321.00

This was moved by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mrs. Loll and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 18-050-018.0-234.00

This was moved by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mrs. Loll and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Anderson moved to add the following to the agenda: the appointment of William J. Conway to the Erie County Library Advisory Board; second readings of Ordinances 133 and 134, 2018; ratification of contract with Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting Services, Inc.; ratification of settlement with Joseph Aguglia. This was seconded by Mr. Leone and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Possible appointment of William J. Conway to the Erie County Library Advisory Board (District 4) (ADDED TO AGENDA)

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 134, 2018 Amending Effective Date Of Ordinance 120, 2018, "Ordinance Number 120, 2018 Amending Effective Date of Ordinance Number 116, 2018, 'Forty-Third 2018 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation Of \$44,006 and Creation Of Two Positions For Reorganization Of Human Relations Commission'". This was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leone and carried in a 7 - 0 vote. Mr. Anderson stated that Mr. Conway will be an excellent addition to the board.

Possible ratification of contract with Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting Systems, Inc. (ADDED TO AGENDA)

Mrs. Loll moved to approve the contract with Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting Systems, Inc., which was seconded by Mr. Horton.

Dr. Foust commented that Council has been without an accountant for many months after the retirement of Joe Maloney and it has been difficult filling those shoes. Council did their best to try and find a local firm to provide these services but were unsuccessful in doing that. A couple of months ago an ad was placed in a professional accounting journal and received one letter of interest from a local gentleman. He was interviewed but found that his work schedule would not allow him to get to Council meetings and provide the type of help that Council had hoped. Dr. Foust noted that this particular outfit, through their past experience with the County and the auditing procedures had started a discussion with the Administration and were referred to Council. Dr. Foust, Doug Smith,

Mrs. Fatica and Mr. Maloney did meet with them and he felt that in the end, Council will get just as good of service as far as professional advice. They will not be at the table quite as often as Joe Maloney was, but certainly during budget time Council made a point to let them know that we really do want someone in town at that time to provide essentially the same type of services that Joe did in the past and they will do their best to get here otherwise. They don't want to attend every meeting so as not to add the additional expense of travel, etc. He recommended that Council approve them.

Mr. Anderson thanked Dr. Foust, Mrs. Fatica, Mr. Smith and the Administration for their work on this project. He was disappointed that there were no local firms that came forward.

Mrs. Loll wanted to be clear that they would be starting immediately and would be a year contract. Dr. Foust stated that it is not a contract, but their services would be secured for a year.

The ratification of the contract with Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting Systems, Inc. then carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**Ordinance Number 133,
2018 - Amending Effective
Date Of Ordinance 119,
2018 (ADDED TO
AGENDA)**

Dr. Foust clarified these two particular ordinances will extend the "life" of the current HRC through November 12th. There is no new director on board just yet and the positions in the budget right now are set to expire on October 22nd, so to allow enough time to get a new director on board, we want to make sure that the office currently functions as it is.

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 133, 2018, "Ordinance Number 133, 2018 Amending Effective Date Of Ordinance 119, 2018, "Ordinance Number 119, 2018 Amending the Effective Date of Ordinance 115, 2018, '2018 Forty-Second 2018 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation Of \$43,869 and Elimination Of Three Positions For Reorganization Of Human Relations Commission'".

This was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leone and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**Ordinance Number 134,
2018 –Amending Effective
Date Of Ordinance 120,
2018 (ADDED TO
AGENDA)**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 134, 2018 Amending Effective Date Of Ordinance 120, 2018, "Ordinance Number 120, 2018 Amending Effective Date of Ordinance Number 116, 2018, 'Forty-Third 2018 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation Of \$44,006 and Creation Of Two Positions For Reorganization Of Human Relations Commission'". This was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leone and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**Possible ratification of
settlement agreement with
Joseph Aguglia (ADDED
TO AGENDA)**

Mr. Horton moved to approve the settlement agreement with Joseph Aguglia, which was seconded by Mr. Anderson.

Dr. Foust asked if Attorney Talarico wanted to give any kind of overview as he was the point person for negotiation. This agreement gives a “severance” of \$12,000 which is roughly \$1,000 for each year of service. Mr. Aguglia also asked for a “thank you” letter for his employment at Erie County, and it releases the County from any further claims or concerns regarding Mr. Aguglia.

Attorney Talarico commented that the terms of agreement there is a complete release of Erie County and Erie County Council from any kind of claim that Mr. Aguglia may make against the County in the future. In exchange of that, Council agreed to pay him \$12,000.

The approval of the settlement agreement with Joseph Aguglia was then approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

There being no further business, the meeting then adjourned at 7:40 p.m. on the motion of Mr. Leone

Deneé M. Breter, Council Secretary